



Three MSSD juniors were recognized for excellence in the arts at a ceremony held at the Kennedy Center on April 19. Adrian Cantrell Saylor (right) was awarded a 2010 Award for Excellence in the Arts (dance, in particular). Roman Solovey (left) was awarded a Certificate of Merit for Drama, and Kate Agate-Mays was awarded a Certificate of Merit for Art.



Rahidt Magarinho (left), a student in the D.C. area's Candeias Capoeira group, and Gallaudet student John Bechhold show Capoeira movements during the fourth annual UnityFest celebration on April 22, held on the Gallaudet mall. The demonstration of this Afro-Brazilian art form was part of full day of multicultural activities. Multicultural Student Programs (MSP) sponsors the event each year, bringing a variety of regional and international foods, performances, information tables, and vendors to campus. During his remarks kicking off the event, President Hurwitz noted that 2010 marks MSP's 20th year. Thanks to the program, he said, "we learn about different families, different backgrounds, and different cultures here." He also noted that such lessons not only help students embrace diverse perspectives, but earn them an advantage in a job market that rewards multicultural awareness.



Students tested their business acumen in the Sutcliffe Business Bowl at Business Day, held April 14 and sponsored by the Department of Business. The contest, named for Dean Emeritus Ronald Sutcliffe (second from right), who continues to fund the activity through an endowment he started, has been a popular climax to Business Day for the past eight years. This year's winners were: first place (\$500)—Christopher Kearney (second from left), a senior; second place (\$250)—Jessica Fein (left), a sophomore; and third place (\$100)—John O'Loughlin, a junior. The judges were Vice President for Administration and Finance Paul Kelly, and Department of Business faculty members Emilia Chukwuma and Reed Gershwind. In addition, Department of Business instructor Sam Swiller gave a presentation on why the United States needed to undergo healthcare reform from an economic perspective, and Department of Business Chair Khadijat Rashid presented on new credit card laws passed last year that went into effect in February.



A dining etiquette workshop/lunch for business and communication studies majors, co-sponsored by the Career Center, the Department of Business, and the Department of Communication Studies, was held on April 14. The workshop's intent was to prepare students for etiquette in the professional world of work, said Anjali Desai-Margolin, interim director of the Career Center. The event simulated a business and dining meeting and included tips on proper table manners, how to dress, how to make business and social introductions, and table conversation techniques. The previous day, the Career Center hosted a walk-in resume critique with Booz-Allen Hamilton representative Chris Carlson to help better prepare student resumes for internships and jobs. Here, Michelle Patrick (second from left), a certified protocol officer and business etiquette expert, gives advice to Joshua Somers (left) and Renelle Medard (right).

# ON THE GREEN

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## Maryland School for the Deaf wins Academic Bowl

For the second time in its history, the Maryland School for the Deaf (MSD), Frederick, claimed victory at Gallaudet's Academic Bowl for Deaf and Hard of Hearing High School Students championship tournament, held April 25 to 26 in the University's Kellogg Conference Hotel.

The MSD team of Andrew Biskupiak, Todd Bonheyo, Christy Hediger, Asher Kirschbaum, and Ethan Sonnenstrahl soundly defeated the Metro Deaf School/Minnesota Star Academy team, which placed second among the 16 teams competing for the title.

The Frederick team's triumph comes as no surprise to many long-time Academic Bowl watchers. MSD has competed in the national championship eight times.

"We are proud of all the teams in this year's tournament," said Sherry Duhon, Gallaudet Academic Bowl coordinator. "Although only one team wins top honors, all share in the sense of accomplishment that comes with being in the national championship."

MSD's triumph follows three months of regional competitions involving 76 teams of deaf and hard of hearing students from deaf and mainstream high schools across the country. The three highest ranking teams (plus one at-large team) from those matches challenged each other in the national contest at Gallaudet.

To learn how each team performed in this year's competition, visit the National Academic Bowl website at [ab.gallaudet.edu](http://ab.gallaudet.edu). ■

## Baseball team invited to the White House



Members of the Gallaudet baseball team and Department of Athletics staff stand outside the White House's East Room, where President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden hosted an April 26 event to honor the New York Yankees for winning the World Series. The University's women student-athletes had the opportunity to meet Biden on April 20. (See article on page 3).

The Gallaudet University baseball team had a front row seat to history on April 26 as the Bison were special guests of U.S. President Barack Obama at a ceremony to recognize the New York Yankees for winning the 2009 World Series, its 27th title overall. The ceremony took place in the East Room of the White House as rain forced the ceremony indoors.

The 2010 Gallaudet baseball team filled the first three reserved rows in front of the president's podium and were in prime position when the Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, and members of the New York Yankees entered the East Room.

"To be present in the East Room with the President of the United States of America, the Vice President and the New York Yankees was a great thrill," said Director of Athletics Michael Weinstock. "Over the years, different championship teams have been recognized by the president, and to be there in person is a once in a lifetime experience."

The ceremony was extra special for Gallaudet baseball coach Curtis Pride, who played for the New York Yankees in 2003. The Yankee contingent included core players Derek Jeter, Andy Pettitte, Jorge Posada, and Mariano Rivera. As members of the Yankees entered and exited the East Room, several came over to Pride to exchange hugs, handshakes, and kind words.

"This is a very exciting day for the Gallaudet

University baseball program. It was an honor for us to be invited and be a part of this ceremony. For our players to be able to shake hands with the president and the New York Yankees is an incredible experience," said Pride. "It was especially great to see old friends from the Yankees organization."

The Gallaudet contingent included Dean of Student Affairs A. Dwight Benedict, Weinstock, and Sports Information Director Sam Atkinson, along with Pride and coaches Greg Fleet, Kris Gould, Ryan Lentz, and Andre Rabouin. The baseball student-athletes in attendance included freshman Tommy Barksdale (Brookeville, Md.), freshman Billy Bissell (Brewer, Mass.), sophomore Brook Fox (Ballwin, Mo.), sophomore Danny Gabel (Staten Island, N.Y.), sophomore Ryan Hastings (Cherry Valley, Mass.), junior Arthur Hess (North Bellmore, N.Y.), senior Chester Kuschmider (Olathe, Kan.), freshman Angelo Leccese (North Bellmore, N.Y.), freshman Peter Leccese (North Bellmore, N.Y.), junior Zane Noschese (Pittsburgh, Pa.), sophomore Jeremy Shepps (Mechanicsburg, Pa.) and junior A.J. Williams (Albuquerque, N.M.).

For the Bison players, this is a memory that won't be forgotten.

"This is a once in a lifetime experience that I will savor forever," said Shepps, the two-time team captain for the Bison. "I am just speechless and very excited. This is one of the richest experiences of my life." ■



## Saloshin Seminar students meet Justice Sonia Sotomayor

By Dr. Julie Fennell

Gallaudet's position in the heart of Washington, D.C. affords its students some exceptional opportunities. Students are a mere walk away from some of the most important men and women in our nation.

On April 2, students in the "Jeffrey Saloshin Memorial Seminar" (SOC 151) took the very short trip to the Supreme Court, where they had the great honor and privilege of meeting Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

Justice Sotomayor was appointed to the Supreme Court by President Obama in the summer of 2009, and she is the first Hispanic member of the court. She spoke candidly about her experiences with diabetes as a child, which prevented her from pursuing a career in law enforcement, and as member of a linguistic and cultural minority group, which has created challenges for her at every step in her career.

One student asked about the difficult

judicial nomination processes Sotomayor endured under three presidents. Sotomayor admitted that the process had been arduous, but thoughtfully reflected, "When the outcome is good, you forget the pain." Another student asked if Sotomayor had any advice for them, and she told them that, like her, they should expect some doors to always seem closed to them. Also, like her, they should expect to have to work especially hard to impress people and open those doors by convincing doubters that they are competent.

However, Sotomayor offered encouragement as well. She said that in her life, once people became impressed by her aptitude, they often became loyal supporters, and she hoped the students at Gallaudet would have the same experience. She concluded by saying that she hoped to someday see one of the Saloshin students arguing before her. ■

*Dr. Julie Fennell is an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology.*

## Students honored for outstanding internship performance



The 2009 Mattivi Internship Hall of Fame Award honorees were (from left) Kayla Castro, Poloko Qobose, and Taiyabah Naeem. Career Center staff and internship supervisors recognized the students at an April 14 ceremony.

Each year, the Career Center honors students who excel in off-campus internships. This year's Mattivi Internship Hall of Fame and Award ceremony, held April 14, recognized three students who shined in their 2009 internships—Kayla Castro, Poloko Qobose, and Taiyabah Naeem.

Erin Fisher, the career consultant who organized the event, first introduced Castro. The personal training major earned recognition for her internship at Results Gym on Capitol Hill during the current academic year. Her supervisor, Bill Fenton, who was on hand to present her award, said that while Results has many deaf and hard of hearing members, the gym staff was not fully knowledgeable about how to include them in programs and activities. To get to a deeper understanding of communication access and improve relations with the deaf community, "Kayla's the one who opened the door," he said.

Qobose traveled quite a distance for his internship. Last summer, the sports management major returned to his home country of Botswana to work for the Botswana National Olympic Committee.

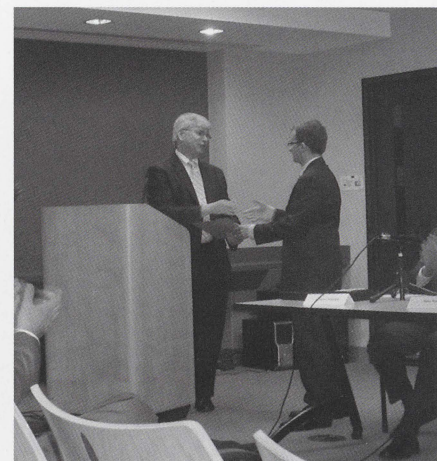
Though his supervisor, Andrew Kamanga, was unable to make the trek from sub-Saharan Africa for the Hall of Fame event, he sent Fisher a glowing email about Qobose's contributions. Kamanga said it was quite possible that the staff learned more from Qobose than the student learned from them.

Naeem, a biology and chemistry major, completed an internship at Stanford University's Otolaryngology and Molecular and Cellular Physiology Lab last summer. She assisted with research on the connection between hearing loss and antibiotic treatments with aminoglycosides. "We nominated her because she is extremely motivated and displays intellectual confidence in her course work and her research endeavors," said Dr. Ava Morrow, an associate professor in Gallaudet's Department of Biology. "Her attention to details, her quest for knowledge, and her desire to reach her goals are characteristics that we admire. We are very proud of her."

Each Mattivi Internship Hall of Fame Award honoree received a cash award. ■

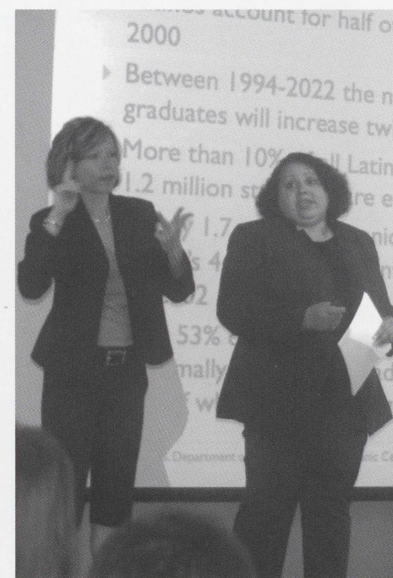
## Among Ourselves

Knowledge Work Supervision (KWS)—a methodology for transforming school systems created by **Dr. Francis Duffy**, a professor of change leadership in the Department of Administration and Supervision and director of the department's Education Specialist Program in Change Leadership, is gaining recognition by international educators advocating for the transformation of the education system in their country. Two professors from the Sultanate of Oman are proposing to use the KWS methodology to transform the Omani education system. In addition, Duffy presented to a group of educators from Thailand on April 30 on the topic of change leadership at a session in Washington, D.C. sponsored by the American Councils for International Education (ACIE) and the U.S. Department of State. He gave a similar presentation in March to a group of educators from Uruguay that was also hosted by ACIE.



Student **Christopher Kearney** (right) was among the winners of the Greater Washington Society of CPAs' 2010 academic excellence scholarship award. He received the award on April 21 at the society's Spring Quarterly Membership Meeting. The award is for students who are majoring in accounting and have demonstrated strong academic performance in accounting and business courses. The society hopes the students who win their scholarship award will plan to take the CPA examination in the future.

Gallaudet's **Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program** earned several distinctions this academic year. First, the program has seen 85 percent of its students—six out of seven—matched with internships accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA). This is a significant accomplishment in a year when 800 students nationally did not match, and one that puts Gallaudet's program above the average success rate. Additionally, three advanced students currently completing their APA-accredited internships and nearing completion of their dissertations matched for very competitive neuropsychology postdoctoral training positions: **Pamela Dean** is going to Rochester, Minn.'s Mayo Clinic; **Joseph Smail** will work at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Pa.; and **Lori Day** secured a position at Johns Hopkins University's Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore, Md.



Dr. Angela Batista (right), senior director of diversity and inclusion at Champlain College, presents "Latino College Students: Barriers and Challenges to Succeeding in College at Predominantly White Institutions" on April 6. Batista, Champlain's first chief diversity officer, established a successful diversity initiative at the predominantly white private, small college in Burlington, Vt. Batista said projections indicate that the Latino population will triple in size, making up 29 percent of the U.S. population by 2050. This demographic represents a huge potential for enrollment at colleges and universities. Therefore, they must take steps to adequately serve Latino students' needs in order to ensure that they get the most out of their higher education experience. To successfully retain Latino students, colleges and universities must make them feel they are an integral part of the campus, not that they are operating on a separate level. There is no generic program that guarantees this, she said—her initiatives at Champlain might not work at Gallaudet, for example. Rather, a program has to be tailored to fit an institution's unique makeup. "It has to be an institutional experience, not just a Latino experience," she said. Batista's talk was part of the 2009-2010 Davila Diversity Lecture Series, sponsored by the Office of the President, the Office of Diversity and Equity for Students, and the Gallaudet National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education Committee. (Also pictured is Gallaudet Interpreting Service interpreter Carolyn Ressler.)

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## Roving Reporter

Campus Community Campaign donors were recognized recently. A few were asked why they make contributions to Gallaudet.



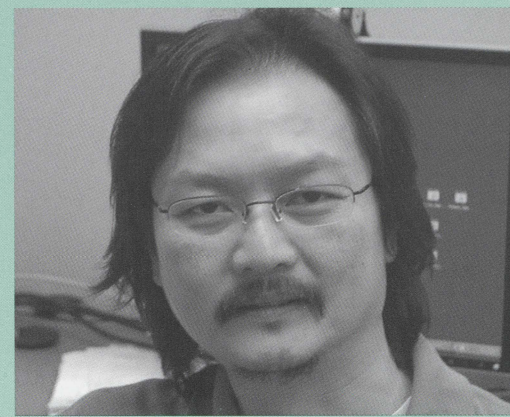
*Students are number one. Our students deserve to be recognized for their achievements and for their academic efforts. I know they have many choices and I'm so glad they chose Gallaudet.*

Thelma Schroeder, director of Academic Advising, donor to the Frances Norton Runde Fund in support of female students



*Growing up, my family and I attended Gallaudet's many events. Gallaudet is where I found my Deaf being and life-long friends. Gallaudet gave me the opportunity to grow as a student, as an employee, and as a family member! I am committed to continue to give back to what I got from Gallaudet.*

Janet Weinstock, English content specialist, K-12, in Planning and Organizational Development, Clerc Center, and donor to various funds supporting literacy, ASL, Deaf Studies, and deaf women.



*My heart is at Gallaudet. Gallaudet gave me so much—academics, leadership, self identity—and now I've worked here for more than 20 years. I've learned a lot from this environment and from my peer group.*

Peter Un, PeopleSoft technology analyst, Information Technology Services, and donor to international student scholarships.

## Bison Roundup

### Women student-athletes attend Title IX press conference with Vice President Joe Biden

It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for nine Gallaudet University women student-athletes on April 20 when they attended a press conference about Title IX with United States Vice President Joe Biden on the campus of The George Washington University. The Bison joined other women from the professional, collegiate, high school and youth ranks from the area and across the nation, including the 2010 USA women's ice hockey silver medalist team.

Biden was joined by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett, and Chair of the White House Council on Women and Girls and Duke University women's basketball senior forward Joy Cheek who had the prestigious honor of introducing the vice president. Cheek is the niece of Gallaudet's head groundskeeper, Ronald Cheek.

At the press conference, Biden announced an update to Title IX policy that mandates gender equality in school sports programs. The U.S. Department of Education has sent letters about the change in policy to more than 15,600 school districts and 5,600 college and university presidents.

"I did not realize the impact Title IX has had on women's athletics over the years. As a woman student-athlete I truly appreciate the establishment of Title IX," said Gallaudet senior volleyball player Shana Lehmann, who attended the press conference. "The speech also made me reflect on the importance of encouraging young girls to participate in athletics at an early age and to be given equal opportunities to play."

### Darius Flowers named CAC Men's Track and Field Rookie of the Year

Gallaudet freshman Darius Flowers (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) was named the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) Men's Track and Field Rookie of the Year on April 23. Flowers became the second Gallaudet student-athlete to earn CAC Rookie of the Year honors for men's track and field.

Flowers won the triple jump at the 2010 CAC Track and Field Championships hosted by Salisbury University on April 17. He jumped a season best 48 feet, 3.5 inches (14.72 meters) with a 6.4 wind factored in. His first-place showing earned him all-CAC first team honors and gave the Bison 10 team points to help them place sixth overall.

### President Hurwitz appointed vice chair of NEAC President's Council

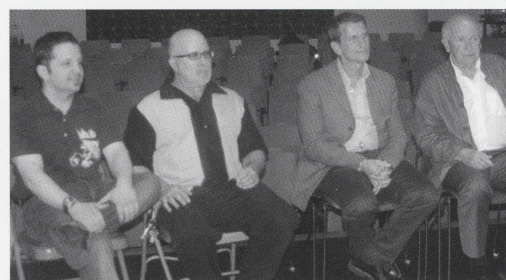
President T. Alan Hurwitz has been appointed vice chair of the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) President's Council. Hurwitz will serve a two-year term, beginning immediately, before being elevated to the chair position, another two-year appointment.

"This is quite a honor for Gallaudet University and myself to be selected as the new vice chair of the NEAC President's Council," said Hurwitz. "Gallaudet is ecstatic for its first year (2010-11) in the NEAC, starting this summer. We look forward to being a contributing member of the conference."

When Gallaudet officially joins the NEAC, it will end a 20-year tenure in the CAC.



President's Office Chief of Staff Don Beil recognizes Darlene Prickett, web editor in the Office of Public and Media Relations, for 15 years of service to Gallaudet.



Tony Award-winning playwright Terrence McNally (right) takes a question during an April 6 campus dialogue in Foster Auditorium that preceded the dress rehearsal of his play, *Corpus Christi*. The play was staged by Gallaudet's Theatre Arts Department April 8 to 10, under the direction of assistant professor Ethan Sinnott (left). Theatre Arts professor Willy Conley (second from left) introduced

McNally and his spouse, Tom Kirdahy (second from right), who were married that day in Washington, D.C. Conley pointed out that McNally had three plays running concurrently at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts—making him perhaps the only living playwright to achieve this feat. *Corpus Christi*, which reinterprets the life of Jesus Christ by portraying him and his disciples as gay, has stirred considerable controversy since it was first staged in 1997. "I'm proud you're doing this play," McNally said, adding, "If you reach one person with your production, it's a triumph." He also praised Gallaudet for hosting frank, open, and respectful discussions that bring long-taboo subjects into the open for rational examination. "Americans have avoided so many subjects for so long," he said. Even talking publicly about gay and lesbian issues would have been unthinkable when he was a child, McNally said. Reflecting back on that era, he acknowledged that progress has been made. "The fact that Tom and I were able to get married this morning is extraordinary," he said. "I can't think of a better way to spend our wedding night than to participate in this dialogue," Kirdahy added. "My heart is full."

## Notes from Human Resources

### Service awards for February

#### Five years:

**Patricia Bowman**, assistant director for annual giving, Development; **Harold Romero**, access control specialist, Systems and Operations

#### Ten years:

**Darian Burwell**, coordinator of student success, Freshmen Studies

#### Fifteen years:

**Brandon Caesar**, registered nurse, Student Health Service; **Marti Kellner**, operations coordinator, ASL Diagnostic and Evaluation Services

#### Thirty years:

**F. Allen Matthews**, network engineer, Information Technology Services; **Lester Thomas**, custodian/floor maintenance, Custodial Services

#### Thirty-five years:

**John Horton**, mechanic, Maintenance Services

### New employees hired in February

**Christopher Bahl**, VRS interpreter I, Gallaudet Interpreting Service-Video Relay Service; **Cherisse Gardner**, coordinator of program development and evaluation, College of Professional Studies and Outreach Dean's Office; **Leah Murphy**, neuro-psychology assessment specialist, National Science Foundation-Science Learning Center

### Retirements in February

**Ronald Faulkner**, Maintenance Services; **Ellen Loughran**, Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures; **Edna Sayers**, English; **Frank Zieziula**, Counseling

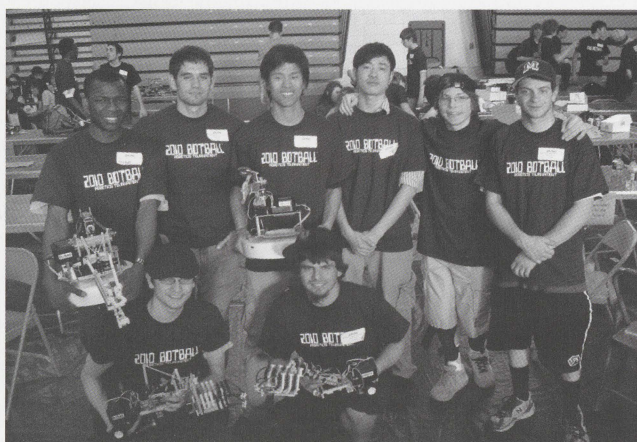




First Year Experience (FYE) staff and Gallaudet administrators honored 32 outstanding first year students on April 14. Fantastic First Year students, selected based on nominations from instructors in consultation with academic advisors, the Office of Student Conduct, and Residence Life, share six characteristics: they demonstrate exceptional commitment; do not settle for "good enough"; seek clarification; earn high GPAs; show respect, motivation, and dedication; and excel inside and outside the classroom. In addition to the student honorees, Judith Termini, director of FYE, received the First Year Advocate Award. Pictured are (from left): back row—Termini, students Michelle Stricklen, Olivia Malcolm, Tony Danverso, Brenda Miers, Brian Butterfield, Cody Dike-Pedersen, Kaitlyn Schwabrow, Anthony Palmer, Clayton Grossinger; middle row—students Kellie Martin, Isabella Kogan, Tanya Sturgis, Michelle Morris, Te Aira Tucker, Lianna Rogers, Tong Song, Lisa van der Mark; front row—Provost Steve Weiner, Associate Provost for Enrollment Management Catherine Andersen, students Connor Crawford, Lauren Benedict, Mari Klassen, Amanda Phillips, Jessica Israel, First Lady Vicki Hurwitz, and President T. Alan Hurwitz. (Not pictured are students Kristen Black, Thais De Moraes, Sandra Frank, Joe Gallagher, Griffin O'Hara, Kirsten Pudas, Caroline Suggs, Hayden Teesdale, Felicia Williams, and Krysten Williams.)

## Clerc Center Happenings

### Robots to the rescue—Botball competition takes on an environmental challenge



The two MSSD Botball teams who competed at the 2010 Greater D.C. Regional Botball Tournament yielded the school's best results ever. Pictured (from left) are: front row—Zachery Tolen, Jacob Fassett; back row—Tobe Amasiatu, John Hagner, Tim Martin, Xian Huang, Jeremy Smith, and Thomas Francis.

By Susan M. Flanagan

**T**wo MSSD teams competed this year in the 2010 Greater D.C. Regional Botball Tournament, a team-oriented robotics competition held April 17 in Fairfax, Va. Out of 52 teams at the tournament, MSSD Team Two took eighth place overall, and Team One took tenth place overall.

"This is the best result we have ever had," said MSSD science teacher Mark Tao, who teaches a Botball class and coaches the teams after school with the assistance of Dr. David Snyder, professor of chemistry at the University.

Botball engages students by challenging them to create two autonomous and software controlled robots that work together to complete a specific task for each year's tournament. The challenge this year was to create robots under the leadership of "Botguy" to help rescue ducks and frogs from an oil spill disaster.

"Our mission is to rescue the oily ducks and to send them to the cleaning center," said Botball team member Jacob Fassett. "The ducks had to be corralled (using the robots) into a line on the green strip of grass on the game board with Botguy at the front so he can count the ducks and release them back into the wild. A score table stated how many points we earned."

This is the first year that MSSD has fielded two teams. Following a two-day workshop, the Botball teams were given seven weeks to design, build, and pro-

gram a team of autonomous robots. The team built their own game table model and practiced against each other. "The students learned how to adapt technology, build devices, select strategies, and write computer programs to accomplish a challenging mission of environmental cleanup," said Snyder. "Credit goes to the students, their teacher, Mark Tao, the Clerc Center, and NASA for making this very special experience possible."

Teams at the tournament have the opportunity to watch other competitors and learn how to build an even better robot. The MSSD team members are already thinking of next year's competition. "I advise students to join the Botball team and learn 'C' computer program language," said student Xian Huang. "I am sure next year the championship will be ours. I hope, hope, hope!"

Tao shared an impressive experience at the awards presentation. "When the MSSD teams were called for their awards, I was shocked to see all the audience waving their hands instead of clapping," said Tao. "It was a wonderful experience for the MSSD teams and me."

To see a mock up of the Botball robots to the rescue, check out the demonstration video at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=3FjYe34cmQ0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3FjYe34cmQ0). Or search for "Botball game 2010 video."

*Note: MSSD also receives funding from the KISS Institute for Practical Robotics, which helped field a second team.*

### Seminar examines difference, diversity, and disability



Dr. James Giordano gives the keynote presentation at the April 15 and 16 "Difference as Diversity" seminar.

**H**umanity now stands on a "cognitive cusp," neuroethicist James Giordano asserted at the seminar "Difference as Diversity: Emerging Perspectives on Deaf-Gain, Disability, and Physical Diversity as an Enhancement of the Human Condition," held April 15 and 16 at the James Lee Sorenson Language and Communication Center atrium.

While scientists' discoveries about the brain are important, Dr. Giordano contends, society is witnessing the dawning of a new era. "We have a brain, but we are mind," he said. Giordano, the director of the Center for Neurotechnology Studies and chair of Academic Programs at the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies, in Arlington, Va., connected his take on the future of science and ethics to the Deaf-Gain concept developed at Gallaudet.

The mind can be molded by the social environment and cultural paradigms, said Giordano. This makes it possible to oppress in the name of science, a tactic that plunged humanity into some of its darkest moments, including the Holocaust in Europe during World War II and slavery and Jim Crow laws in the United States' recent past.

In the present day, subjective interpretation leads to the assumption that science must be applied to anyone who is not considered normal, including people with disabilities. But what is really a disability? Giordano asked. "I cannot slam dunk a basketball; I cannot dance, gossamer-like, on a balance beam," he admitted. Though we may have scientific or technological solutions to these shortcomings, no doctor would insist that an accomplished academic use them. These traits fall within the accepted norm. "Deafness ... may indeed represent part of the natural diversity of that natural expression," Giordano said.

As technology moves forward, Giordano said society must ask itself, "What is treatment and what is enhancement?" and "Do we allow technology to create a new normality?"

In closing, Giordano made the case for "full-contact science," doing what is both technically right and morally good without letting politics or the social environment cloud one's decisions. Like the Faust character of German legend who sold his soul for unlimited knowledge, humankind must make a decision about what it will give up in the interest of scientific advancement.

The seminar included presentations from faculty members and graduate students. Faculty presented the first day on the following topics related to bioethics, biodiversity, and difference:

- Teresa Blankmeyer Burke, "Standpoints, X-Phi, and Deaf-Gain"
  - Dr. David Armstrong, "Deaf-Gain in Evolutionary Perspective"
  - Dr. Brian Greenwald, "Ringing Up Eugenics"
- The afternoon session, "Deaf-Gain: Narratives, Theories, and Practice," featured:
- Dr. Joseph Valente, "d/Deaf and d/Dumb: A Portrait of a Deaf Kid as a Young Superhero"
  - Dr. Dirksen Bauman, "Deaf-Gain and Cognitive Diversity: Reawakening the Potential of Manual Intelligence"
  - Dr. Benjamin Bahan, "Framing Sensory Experiences"
  - Dr. Gina Oliva, "A Case Study on Deaf-Gain in Practice"
  - Hansel Bauman, "Towards a Deaf Architecture"

April 16 included a series of graduate student panels: "Deaf-Gain," "Disability as Genetic Diversity," and "Genetics and Society."

The two-day event was initiated by Dr. Joseph Murray, assistant professor of ASL and Deaf Studies, as part of an ongoing interrogation of the social interpretations of physical difference. "While working on the idea of Deaf-Gain with Dr. Dirksen Bauman, I discovered similar ideas emerging among scholars in different fields and with relation to various forms of genetic and physical difference," said Murray. "The goal for this seminar was to bring some of these ideas to the forefront, to highlight how scholars are reconceptualizing physical difference as contributions to human diversity. Our presenters, both Gallaudet faculty and graduate students, approached this topic from a variety of angles."

The event's support reflected its multidisciplinary scope—sponsorship came from the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies, VL2: The Science of Visual Learning Center at Gallaudet, and the School of Graduate Studies and Professional Programs. From any perspective, Murray said, "This frame can shift how we understand what it means to be human." ■



A group discusses campus diversity issues at the People of Color reception, held April 15 in "Ole Jim." This event was organized by the Office of Diversity to get input on ways to ensure that Kendall Green maintains a climate that is open and welcoming for everyone. Also in attendance were President Hurwitz (in background), members of the Academic Affairs Management Team, and other invited guests.